



DALZIEL HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 3rd December 2015

in the School Conference Room

Present:	Mr Robert Birch	-	Head Teacher
	Mrs Deborah King	-	Chairperson
	Mrs Irene McKenna	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Margery Lilly	-	Parent Member
	Mr David Forson	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Jennifer DiMambro	-	Staff Member
	Mrs Fiona Conboy	-	Staff Member
	Mr Ross Mitchell	-	House Captain
	Mrs Leeann Rattigan	-	Clerk

1 APOLOGIES

Mrs Irene McApline
Ms Alisha Steeds
Ms Rachel Beresford
Mr Simon Jessney

2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 4th November 2015 were proposed by David Forson, seconded by Irene McKenna and were accepted as a true and accurate record of events.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

4 RECTOR'S REPORT

4.1 Staffing

The following appointments have been made:
Kartina Heenan as teacher of Biology.
Kim Esdaile will join as Principal Teacher of Social Studies.
Patrick Parsons as teacher of History.
Nicola Irvine as teacher of Music.

An Interview for the Computing Teacher post has taken place today – R Birch advised that as the candidate has not applied for the other school vacancy according to the matrix procedure, **confirmation the offer is required to be sought from the personnel department by R Birch.**

All appointments are due to start Dalziel after Christmas.

Currently Fiona Conboy has been covering the post of DHT on a temporary basis, Interviews are to be carried out on Wednesday 9th December by Aileen Hart, Robert Birch, Deborah King, Irene McKenna.

R Birch advised a letter regarding Early Retirement is set to be issued to all staff, D King enquired as to what the possible uptake of this could be, R Birch advised there will be a notice period involved to allow for recruitment; Review of temporary teachers to take place.

4.2 SQA Awards

Congratulations to our Science Department on their recent win of two SQA Awards; The Partnership Award & the Pride 'O Worth Award, This is a further recognition of our partnership with AMEC FW.

4.3 NLC Standardisation

R Birch advised he is currently Vice Chairperson on the committee which is discussing the time table; directive is for every school to have the same time table. Issues arising are with the Bus Contracts regarding Drop off/Collections. **R Birch confirmed Isabelle Boyd is currently in negotiations with the Bus Company's and he is awaiting feedback.**

R Birch confirmed for the areas of Motherwell/Wishaw & Shotts the entitlement options for the upper school will change from August 2017; Options structure is set to change, but with the column options co aligning with all other schools in the area.

Subject numbers are set to be narrowed to 6 or 7.

A Discussion was had on the following issues; Number of children who would likely take these subjects up if they need to travel to a different school, College capability to deal with larger group numbers, Timelines for set up, Budget impacts.

4.4 Directorate Visit

Our Directorate visit meeting with Isabelle Boyd went well with recognition of good work being done in the school. **R Birch advised feedback will be available for January's meeting.**

4.5 Kosovo Visitors

J DiMambro advised the visit which was led by Education Scotland went very well, the visitors got to review the curriculum material which they were very impressed with.

4.6 Public Speaking Competition

Inter-house Public Speaking Competition took place on the 10th November and was won by Andrew Tweedie, R Birch noted the exceptional standard displayed by all who took part.

4.7 School Inspection

Robert Sullivan visited the school on the 2nd December for the Customer Service Excellence Award Inspection Day, where he was able to speak to teachers and pupils. Verbal feedback received was positive. **R Birch to advise of written report in due course.**

4.8 Christmas Arrangements

Church services arrangement are currently underway.

Christmas Dance tickets are now on sale.

R Mitchell confirmed the House Captains have discussed their requirements with Mr McCallum.

5 TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no change to the report.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

D King advised the group of the reply received from Mr McKinstry regarding the request for funding for updating our Home Economics Department; Mr McKinstry's has stated there is no funding available at present, these works have been noted if further funding becomes available in the future we will be notified. Consensus was that another letter is to be compiled in order to keep the line of communication open with the focus being on the Health & Safety impacts facing the department. R Birch noted that the issue of Health and Safety has been raised in the past.

It was recognised that the Health & Wellbeing supported the school by making costumes for the school shows.

It was suggested that another avenue would be to make contact with the Elected Members to offer a visit to review the issues the department is facing.

Discussion was had on the possibility of what other funding options may be available to try i.e. Lottery, Educational Avenues, and multiple smaller funding amounts rather

than one large. An investigation to take place on what options are viable in order to move this issue forward.

7 BUDGET CUTS

D King confirmed a letter requesting further information on the selected topics was compiled by Simon Jessney and issued to Paul Jukes the new Chief Executive of NLC
– **Parent Council is awaiting a response.**

8 A.O.B

8.1 D Forson advised that snack breaks whilst pupils are at Dalziel Park after PE were still not being offered and the children were returning to school hungry.
R Birch to take this up with PE Department.

8.2 Dalziel PE T Shirts are now available to S1 pupils.

8.3 All Change Rule - R Birch advised since its commencement the number of pupil's not taking part in PE has reduced.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 7th January 2016.